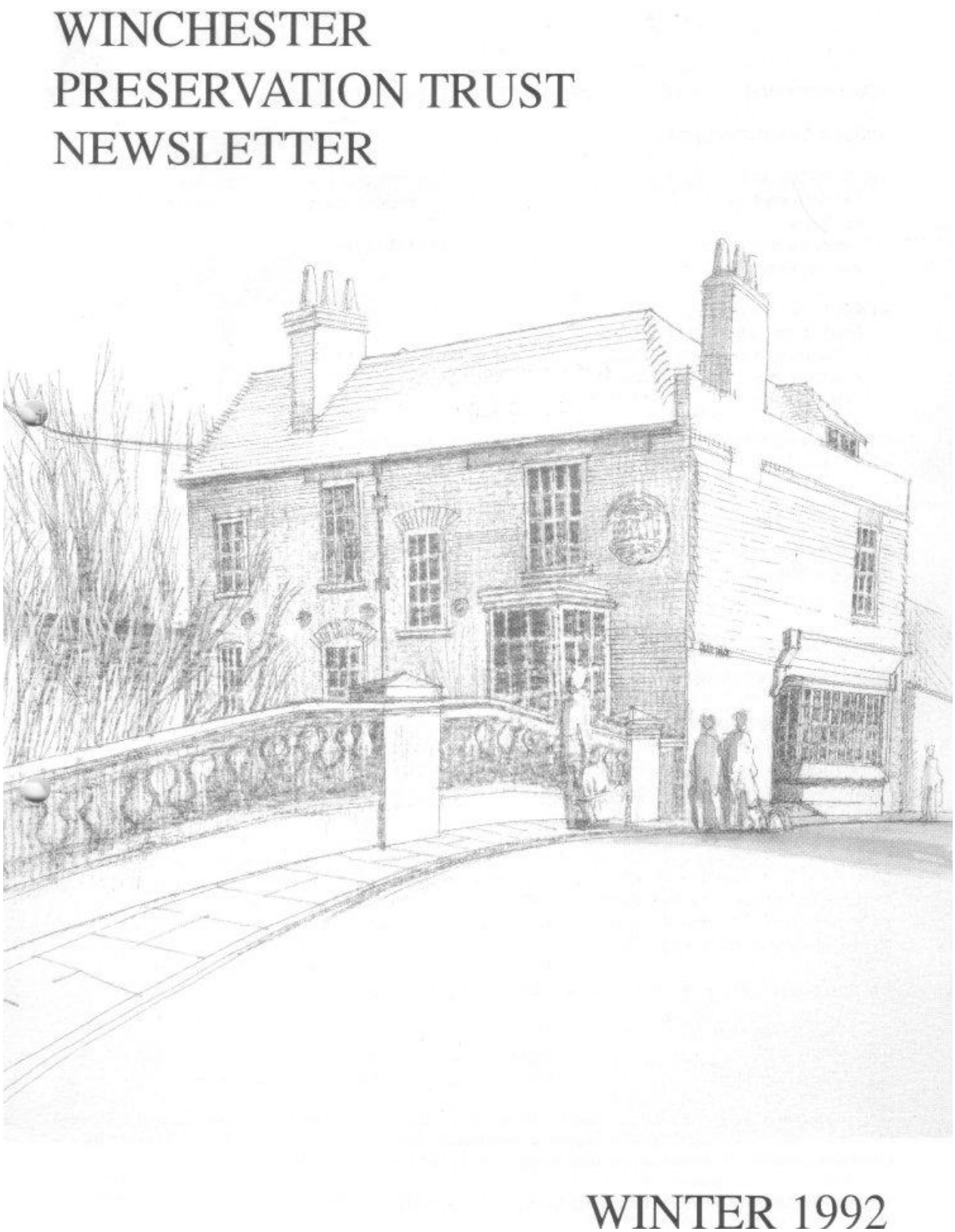
Title Picture - TrustNews Winter 1992



Drawing of No.1 Bridge Street (now Pizza Express) by Nick McPherson, an architect member of the Council of the Trust. He has recently exhibited some drawings at the Guildhall.

Subscription Increase - TrustNews Winter 1992

The Council of the Trust has decided to increase subscriptions by a modest amount with effect from 1st May 1992. The present subscriptions have been unchanged for many years and are insufficient to cover the running costs of the Trust. Fortunately it has been possible to meet the shortfall out of the income received on the Trust's investments. However, we feel that subscriptions should be at a level sufficient to cover a reasonable proportion of our costs.

As you know the Trust from time to time has made modest financial contributions to projects and causes which we believe to be for the benefit of Winchester (recent examples are the restoration of the balustrade of a house in Eastgate Street and of the weathervane at St John's Church). Since we are fortunate in being in a stronger financial position than most amenity societies we believe that it is only right for the Trust to pursue a more active policy towards projects of this nature. However, as we also believe that any expenditure on them should be out of revenue and not capital this is an additional reason for seeking to increase our income.

For these reasons your Council has decided that from 1st May 1992 subscriptions will be as follows:

Ordinary Member £5 p.a. (previous rate: £3)
Family Member £7.50 p.a. (previous rate: £4)
Corporate Member £10 p.a. (previous rate: £8)

Enclosed in this Newsletter is a Banker's Order and it is hoped that as many members as possible will avail themselves of this convenient means of payment by completing it and returning it to the Secretary of the Trust. The new Banker's Order will automatically cancel any previous instructions to your Bank.

We would remind all members that subscriptions are due on 1st May 1992.

Visions of Winchester - TrustNews Winter 1992

A new series of Lectures



This is a new and important feature of the programme which we believe will be of great interest to members and to others. Full details are given in the leaflet inserted in this Newsletter but it will be seen that this is a series of five lectures by eminent speakers arranged by our Urban Studies Committee.

Winchester is typical of many historic old towns and cities throughout the UK and Europe and has been subject to all the usual stresses and strains which planning authorities struggle to resolve. It is on the edge of what has been until recently an area of major expansion although the City itself is now supposed to be a 'no growth area'. Over the last two decades a considerable number of new buildings have been introduced and old ones altered and these in some cases have proved to be controversial in both aesthetic and planning terms. Area planning policies have been established to preserve and protect the City from the excesses of modern day requirements, but because of the popularity of the City both for its historic ambience and its central position the planning lines have been frayed by development that appears to test the system to its limits. Against this background the Urban Studies Committee felt that it would be helpful to take stock of the current situation and try to put Winchester into perspective both nationally and internationally by looking in from the outside.

We believe that this series of lectures, which represents an entirely new departure for the Trust, will be of interest and importance not only to members but to a wider public and indeed the first lecture which has already taken place proved to be a great

success. It was not possible to issue the Newsletter in time to give notice of this lecture but we hope that most members will have seen the advertisements for it in the Press and elsewhere. A series of lectures on this scale involves a certain amount of expense and as will be seen from the leaflet a modest entrance fee will be charged.

This is an ambitious project for the Trust and we hope that it will be well supported.

Development Control - TrustNews Winter 1992

Although recession may not yet be over, development schemes seem to be on the move once more, albeit rather slowly. The original planning applications for the **Peninsula Barracks** lower site have been withdrawn, and a revised scheme has been put forward. This was presented to the Trust by members of the City's Planning Department, and the reduced density of 127 (from 142) residential units was welcomed, since this left space for more satisfactory landscaping. Many of the Trust's suggestions for improving the previous scheme have been included, so it is not surprising that members found it generally more acceptable. It was however felt that the architectural styles of the blocks tended to vie for dominance, rather than acting as foils for each other, and that this could have an overpowering effect in such a large development. Serles Place, the office building that is to replace the existing guardhouse, was considered too intrusive in both size and design for its sensitive position next to Serles House, and it was felt that the design of Castle Crescent should be simpler and more in sympathy with the elegant terrace it will face across St James Lane.

The effect of the proposed car park and the additional traffic generated remains the main concern of the Trust. It is proposed that the 100 underground parking spaces will only be used by visitors to museums on the Upper Barracks site; the Trust questions this usage because of its location near Will Shorts garage, which is a considerable (up-hill) distance from the museums, and the difficulties of monitoring who actually parks there. Presumably those with disabled badges will be allocated parking spaces on the Upper Barracks, but members felt that visitors with walking problems would be better served by space in the Tower Street car park or, better still, by being delivered to the museum door by bus, having left their cars in a perimeter car park under a Park & Ride scheme. There was considerable concern over the extra traffic this public car park would add to the already congested Southgate Street, where traffic lights are to be installed at the junction with the entrance into the site, between the two churches, Garrison and St Thomas. The applicants have made the assumption that cars going into the city centre will have clear onward passage from the lights (users of the road will know that even out of peak periods traffic can back up beyond this point); it is also claimed that cars otherwise planning to park in the centre will be diverted to the new car park (as it is only for visitors to the museums, these drivers should not be using it in any case). Members were also worried about the effect the new lights would have on the St Swithun Street junction. This car park has been described as a peripheral one because it is outside the central gyratory traffic system; to anyone living or working in Winchester it is as central as Tower Street (and not up a hill) and closer in than

Chesil Street. The Trust feels strongly that this proposed new car park is out of step with current thinking and could prejudice the future success of a Park & Ride scheme, and has therefore objected to this aspect of the application.

There have also been several other housing development applications, of course all much smaller than the vast Barracks proposals. There is a revised scheme for low-cost housing on the former **UBM site, Upper Brook Street**, where it is proposed to build twelve terraced houses in three blocks, together with a semi-detached house adjoining the existing Victorian house fronting onto the street. The unassuming style of this development is a considerable improvement on the design of the original scheme, although there are some reservations about the style of the windows proposed for the building adjoining the Victorian house. A planning bonus is that the County Council standard of two car-parking spaces per dwelling has been waived because of the central position of this development.

Unfortunately the same waiver was not part of another scheme in Wharf Hill. In company with ten others, the Trust objected to a development proposed for **35 Wharf Hill** and its garden, where it was intended to build three semi-detached dwellings, one detached house and a block of two flats, as well as an extension to the existing house. This was considered much too high a density for this restricted site, where the buildings and car-parking requirements occupied virtually all the available land, leaving very little space for landscaping and raising the possibility of surface run-off causing pollution in the neighbouring River Itchen. The treatment proposed for the existing house and the design of the new buildings were also thought inappropriate and out of character for this sensitive location. The scheme was withdrawn before a decision was reached by the Local Authority.

The same parking drawback is apparent in an outline application for a site on the corner of **Andover and Boscabel Roads**. Here the proposal is to build a block containing four flats and a maisonette, and while the Trust welcomed the removal of the unsightly advertising hoardings that would result from this development, the vast barren area allocated for car-parking was very much disliked. Flats require a disproportionate amount of land for car-parking, and it was felt that none should be permitted on this site. A planning decision on this application is still awaited.

The site on the hill to the north of Petersfield Road is once again under consideration. Several large houses have already been built on this hillside and, with one exception, their stances are rather reminiscent of surprised rabbits sitting up to see across the valley, mainly due to their siting on the hill and the fact that their garages are placed beneath them. Permission to build houses of a similar type has already been granted for this site, but this latest application is for three blocks of what are described as 'invaluable low-cost units to the benefit of the area'. They mostly consist of two-bedroom flats, with a few one-bedroom and studio flats, and one block also incorporates snooker areas, a gym, solarium and recreation hall. It was therefore difficult to equate the description with the scheme, which seemed to be neither low cost nor of much value to the local citizenry, who would presumably be excluded from the amenities by the electrically-controlled gates fitted to the entrances of all the blocks. Like the houses, the three blocks would incorporate their garaging in the basement area, but as they are proposed to have another three storeys, compared with the two of the houses, and would also be very much more

bulky, they would seem very tall and towering to anyone on the Petersfield Road below, and it was felt that their vast roofscapes would be very visible from across the valley. The design of the blocks was uninspiring, and in one case upsetting (mock Tudor was considered very inappropriate for this location!), and made very unsympathetic use of the hilly terrain. The Trust objected to this application, and would prefer a scheme with a lower density, housed in longer, lower blocks that were designed to fit into the contours of the hill. This would seem to be a good opportunity for some interesting modern architecture and it was wondered whether the developer could be persuaded to organise an architectural competition for the design of this scheme.

Two recent external refurbishments proposed for existing buildings provide interesting contrasts of approach. One was for the former **Pickfords Depository, St Paul's Hill**, which is to be upgraded by a hi-tech firm for light industrial, office and storage use. The change of use was welcomed by the Trust, but there were considerable reservations about the external 'improvements' proposed for the building. These consisted of a predominantly neoclassical treatment of the facade which, combined with an overabundance of decorative features and windows of uncharacteristic art decco design, lost the air of lightness possessed by the original building. The Trust objected to the proposed alterations and hoped that more of the building's original character could be retained; a decision on this scheme has still to be made. The other was a scheme to refurbish the elevations and roof of a 1960s building at **21 Hyde Street**. While in principle the hanging of a complete neo-period facade onto a more recent building gives rise to some concern, this scheme appears to have been well considered, with proper attention to appropriate details and proportions. Permission to go ahead has been given for this scheme.

Many of the other applications considered during this period related to signs and shopfronts proposed for establishments in Winchester by their national head offices. A prime example of this was the application made by **Fortecrest, Paternoster Row** (ex Wessex Hotel): here it was obvious that 'Head Office' had provided this scheme for the proposed signs without any reference to either the requirements of an historic city or to the unique siting of the hotel in such close proximity to the Cathedral. The Trust objected to this application, which was refused by the Local Authority.

As well as the weekly vetting of planning applications in the City, the Development Control Committee carries out a variety of other activities. During the past few months these have included the distribution of **Shopfronts: Advertisements in Historic Towns**, the publication of The English Historic Towns Forum that was mentioned in the last newsletter. The Trust has purchased a number of these booklets, and members of the committee have been distributing copies selectively within the City centre shopping area. A response has also been made to a request by the Chief Planning Officer to comment on how these guidelines related to Winchester, and consequently how the City Council's own 1976 draft policy on signs and shopfronts should be amended.

Another activity has been the recording of the interior of **Century House, Jewry Street**. The gutting of the building considered essential to make it suitable for modern usage has already been approved, and ready co-operation was given by the

owners, who granted interested members of the Trust access to photograph the interiors for posterity before they are dismantled.

Landscape - TrustNews Winter 1992

In the Autumn the Landscape Committee was involved in several proposed schemes amongst them **Stanmore Estate** and we attended a meeting (in St Luke's Church Hall) when the City planners presented ideas to local residents for improvements including play areas and tree planting. We also looked at the overall appearance of the estate in an endeavour to see that the original quality of the design and layout is maintained. The loss of hedges to front gardens which so enhanced the street scene have in many cases been replaced with poor fences and inappropriate walls. We would like to find some way of preventing this further deterioration. The shop/library area is badly in need of upgrading and the City planners intend to do this at sometime. We will be looking for extra tree planting as well.

Lower High Street. The City Landscape Architect showed us the proposed alterations to the entrance to the pedestrian precinct and removal of the 'goal posts' with their numerous signs. We did not agree with the provision of railings but it transpires that this will enable the signs to be at a lower level without conflicting with the access for pedestrians. A tree, seat and cycle stands are proposed and we asked that the street furniture be of complementary design.

We attended a meeting set up by the City planners and Engineers so that local shopkeepers and interested parties could comment on proposals for alterations and new paving in The Square. As the traffic and parking for cars is to remain unaltered we saw little point in the re-designing being hurriedly rushed through. But the money is only available if spent in this financial year ie work should start by March. Subsequent to our written observations, the City planners invited us and representatives from the architects Plincke Leaman & Browning to a meeting to go through the scheme. Several changes have now been made to the design but we are pressing for good quality natural materials to be used which will result in an effect of broad simplicity in this very important part of the City. We also requested that well designed street furniture, signs, lighting etc be rigorously selected and incorporated at the design stage. We are continuing to liaise with the City departments whilst detail plans are drawn up.

Upper Brook Street is another scheme being hurriedly prepared to meet financial spending dates and we attended the meeting for residents and others to voice their opinions to the City planners. We objected to the proposed bollards in the very narrow pavement outside the Heritage Centre and did not like the winding course of the roadway with ramps to act as traffic calming but detract from simple lines of this Victorian street. Also in Upper Brook Street we were glad to see small front gardens included in the residential redevelopment of the former **UBM site** but as this did not tally with the re-aligned road scheme we are not sure which will prevail! Other planning applications we have commented on include **Pilgrims House** in Arthur Road where we objected to the front garden being turned into four car parking spaces and are pleased this has been refused.

We welcome the proposed replacement bridge over the stream at the rear of **Kingsland House** Chesil Street which follows closely the design of the original, but in natural wood. We would like to retain the white painted finish which gives great scenic value to a much used riverside walk. The Trust has therefore put forward a proposal that it share any additional cost involved and to look at ways it could assist in maintaining the bridge in the future.

We reported to the City the mutilation of a large Sycamore tree near the corner of **Kingsgate Road** and Norman Road where only the trunk has been left and the City arboricultural officer is to contact the contractor responsible. In future when consent is granted for work on good specimen trees he will insist that prior notice be given of commencement of the work. On the plus side we have noticed that good tree surgery has been carried out recently on several prominent specimen trees.

Urban Studies - TrustNews Winter 1992

The Urban Studies Group are well into the Chippindale Venture III programme. Two schools are involved and both have now been briefed on the project. The project is to design a new extension to Marwell Zoo and is related to the zoo's African Bowl project. The format for the project is similar to previous years and involves planners, landscape architects and architects spending time with teams of children and helping them to evolve their ideas. The culmination of the schools' efforts are brought together on a final day and presented to a panel of assessors for critiques.

This year we are fortunate in having managed to secure the services of Sir Richard Rogers and Chris Packham (of the BBC wildlife unit) to act as part of the assessment team.

The assessment day is 12th March 1992 between 11.30am -3.30pm at Marwell Zoo. If any trust member is interested we would be delighted to see them on this occasion but please contact David Ash to enable numbers to be confirmed (0962 841404).

It is a rewarding project and well worth seeing the enthusiasm of the school children, their imaginative ideas as well as the team spirit of the project leaders.

The Urban Studies Committee would like to thank all those firms, local authorities, county authorities, and the sponsors for making this rewarding project possible.

Heritage Centre - TrustNews Winter 1992



New Hanging Sign

The Heritage Centre continues to play an important role in the life of the City. Although officially closed during the winter months, meetings and events have found the centre quite often open, and other societies have been encouraged to meet there. A successful Cat Exhibition was held in December opened by John Browne MP, with the Mayor present, and prior to that a Plant Sale introduced the Centre to many people not previously aware of its existence. Other events planned for 1992 include a Euro Tunnel Exhibition, the Design Awards 1991 Scheme and a Fine Arts Auction Sale (see programme for details). Our new hanging sign has now been erected, giving more prominence to the building.

Sadly, our hard working Manager, Alan Cooke, is retiring in February. He will be hard to replace as he organised practically everything, including the shop and the volunteers. Tony Hunter has agreed to become Assistant Manager, and it is hoped that some of the duties connected with the Centre can be undertaken by others.

An attractive old print of Winchester from the north east was produced as a Christmas card, and proved a success, being sold out well before Christmas. Also a postcard is available of Sir Hugh Casson's attractive colour sketch of the Heritage Centre at 20p each (members 15p).

The Winchester Heritage Centre is unique in the southern counties of England, and its existence gives an added status to the Preservation Trust. Its future lies not just in the increased number of visitors it is likely to attract, but in its increasing use as a meeting place, and urban studies centre. This coming year it has been chosen as the venue for the visit to Winchester of the London Society.



Sir Hugh Casson's drawing is now available as a postcard.

Design Awards 1991 - TrustNews Winter 1992

The Awards and Commendations were announced and presented by the Mayor, Councillor Captain R J Bates RN, at The Heritage Centre on 31st January. We print below the report of the Chairman of the Selection Panel, Gordon Michell RIBA, who was consultant architect at The Civic Trust, and author of the Royal Fine Art Commission's publication 'The High Street'. He was responsible for the regeneration of the Derbyshire market town of Wirksworth, and is currently working on a similar project at Calne, Wiltshire.

"I was particularly pleased to be asked to participate in judging the entries to the Trust's Design Awards 1991. Among the many reasons for being pleased, two stood out in my mind.

First, although I have never known Winchester well I have always remembered it as being one of our most beautiful cathedral cities in spite of the damage inflicted on it since the War. Throughout the centuries succeeding generations have regarded it as important and there is an abundance of evidence of this through what they left behind. With a good guide, a walk around the city or to look down on it from the higher ground around, is like reading a good history book. To me, therefore, Winchester has always been a special place, a place which calls for the most sensitive treatment and attention, a place in which resident and visitor alike should be encouraged to feel and exercise civic pride.

Second, for many years I have enthusiastically supported ventures which help to draw peoples' attention to their environment and to the special qualities of the place. The more special these are the greater is the need for an organisation having as its main aim the creation in everyone of all ages this greater sense of civic pride. This is one of the aims of the Winchester Preservation Trust's Design Awards scheme and it calls for our wholehearted support.

The response to its fifth year since being launched in 1983 has been heartening and the number of entries - 32 - is a record which demonstrates the interest in the scheme by those who have been responsible for change and improvement within the City over the last two years. The range of these entries has also been impressive - the rebuilding of boundary walls, which are such a feature of the City scene, to new shop fronts, to new city centre redevelopment schemes, housing schemes, a new bridge, and to workshops on the industrial estate. The number of entries and their

quality, to say nothing of the care taken in presenting them, made assessment a lengthy and in some cases, difficult task but from our deliberations emerged a high level of unanimity. The offering of nine Awards and seven Commendations is surely sufficient evidence of the extent to which the Selection Panel were impressed by the response this year, although the Panel had hoped for rather more entries relating to landscaping, shop fronts and environmental improvements.

The quality of design of shop fronts and their fascias is of paramount importance in retaining and enhancing the character of the City's shopping streets. Although the entry in the category to which we have offered an Award this year, Jones Bootmaker, is of a traditional design the panel did not select it on this account. It is a design which respects the building of which it is part, is well-mannered, is in scale with its surroundings and, quite clearly, fits in and is acceptable. The beautiful restoration of 33 High Street has attracted a tenant who has installed a plate-glass shop front with double glass doors, the whole topped by a simple fascia for their name and the nature of their business. It was not completed in time to be entered for a 1991 Award, but it serves to remind that ancient and modern can live happily together and that a successful shop front can be very simple and free from gimmickry. We were delighted to be able to give an Award to a piece of imaginative and unmistakably modem architecture; Devenish House for St John's Winchester Charity. Winchester, as any other historic but living city, needs to be able to boast of the best of contemporary architecture as well as cherishing its historic buildings and street scenes. All too often new development has neither the charm of the old nor the inspiration of the new; it is poor pastiche. Of this we were rather depressingly aware as we went round the City. There was, however, encouraging evidence that the charm of the old is being increasingly recognised through sympathetic restoration and rehabilitation. It is a pleasure, for instance, to admire the skilful refurbishment of No 1 Southgate Street as it stands in a prominent position at the entry to the old City.

As much a part of Winchester, these days, are of course the industrial estates, and here we found another Award winner in the new Fire Brigade Workshops, proving that the workplace can be practical as well as attractive to the eye. Low cost housing has been another success story in Winchester of recent years, and we were pleased to note some good features and imaginative lay-out in the schemes we visited.

While most entries concerned either new buildings or the rehabilitation of old ones, one becomes very aware that it is not solely the design of the buildings which concern us in maintaining the character of the place. It is the care and thought given to the spaces created by, or between, buildings which are important. They not only enhance and create the right setting for buildings but they provide sudden and often exciting variations from the regular street pattern for pedestrians; these are places where there are opportunities for some interesting landscaping, a paving pattern depicting something of the city's rich history, some seats, and - yes, why not - a work of art or craftmanship. The opportunity to provide such a space as a pleasurable contribution to the city occurs rarely - it did in the development of Walcot Place in the High Street but sadly the Panel did not feel the challenge had been taken up.

It may come as a surprise to the observant reader that the redevelopment of a large site in the centre of the High Street has failed to feature amongst the schemes recognised for their design quality or as being, at least, a good try which has not

quite made the standard of an Award. The redevelopment of the former Woolworths site, submitted for an Award, gave the developers and their architects a unique opportunity to make a lasting contemporary contribution to the architectural heritage of the city's High Street. Standing in the High Street one cannot avoid being impressed by the richness of this heritage and the variety of styles but, above all, by the sheer character and interest of the buildings which line the street. The Panel tried hard and long to find any of these qualities in this development which we regard as being totally inadequate for the importance of its location. It must surely be regarded as a misleading example of the state of the art of architecture in the 1990s. Fortunately it was not representative of the entries as a whole. We considered the general level of entries to be high and hope that the increase in number will be repeated in 1993."

The 1991 Design Awards were divided into 5 categories: 1. New Buildings; 2. Rehabilitation/Restoration of old buildings; 3. Landscape; 4. Shopfronts, fascias and facades; 5. Environmental improvements.

The Award winning schemes are illustrated here, and the commendations are listed, with the Selection Panel's comments.

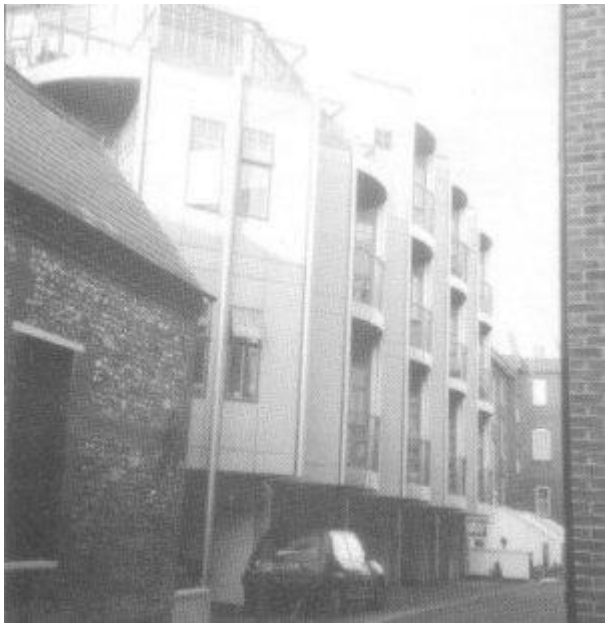
AWARD WINNERS





HAMPSHIRE FIRE BRIGADE WORKSHOPS
Winnall Industrial Estate
Cecil Denny Highton Architects
With good use of colour and clean proportions, the new Spray Workshop (above) and refurbished shed set high standards for industrial buildings.

DEVENISH HOUSE
Extra Care Unit for St John's Winchester Charity, Southgate Street
Plincke Leaman & Browning Limited Architects



An Award is given for the new extension at the back with link to the front of the building. A thoroughly modern, imaginative design with interesting use of contemporary materials producing an enlightened outlook in a restricted site. These bow-fronted buildings at the rear reflect designs in Winchester from an earlier era. However, to ensure that such architectural solutions are to enjoy public confidence, it is essential that there is a high standard of maintenance of the materials to retain the good appearance of the building.

PIZZA EXPRESS
No 1 Bridge Street
Enzo Apicella



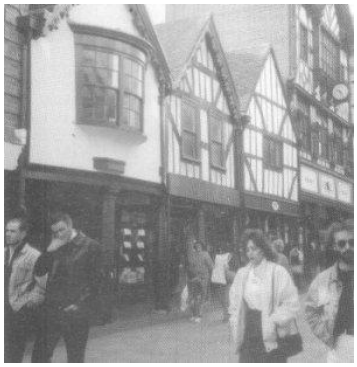
An Award is given for the restoration of the exterior and interior of the building, and the restraint shown in the treatment of woodwork, logo and fascia. The Panel had some doubts about the recessed entrance and adjoining window, but felt that, given the very restricted pavement space, it was an acceptable solution, although the blue plastic door handles seem inappropriate for the character of the building.

UNITED CHURCH
Jewry Street
Plincke Leaman & Browning Limited Architects



An Award is given for the refurbishment and decoration of the church interior. The skilful placing of the new floor level in relation to the existing vaulted ceiling was particularly noted. New, but most satisfying proportions are achieved.

33 HIGH STREET
(Bow fronted building on left of photograph)
Clarke Baxter Partnership



The restoration of the whole fabric inside and out has been very carefully carried out. The craftsmanship - using traditional methods - involved in the reconstruction of the medieval timber frame is particularly appreciated.

JONES BOOTMAKER
17 The Square
J 0 Gross MCSD



The Panel greatly welcomes the care taken in the design and execution of the shop front of this restored building, which fits harmoniously with its neighbours in this important city center square.

REPAIRS TO BOUNDARY WALLS
4 The Close
The Sarum Partnership Architects
Everest Construction Limited



An Award is given for repairs and rebuilding of a very important section of wall in The Close - executed with great care and attention to detail, using traditional flint-wall building techniques and associated materials.

REBUILDING OF WALL
64 Edgar Road
Scammell & Higgins Construction



An Award is given for the rebuilding of a section of wall on St Cross Road. This displays careful attention to traditional flint-wall techniques, and has been skilfully carried out and finished.

NEW DURNGATE BRIDGE
County Architects/Surveyors and Planning Department





An attractive solution to a problem of a dangerous and unsightly area. It is immeasurably safer and more pleasant for pedestrians, and has greatly improved the surrounding area.

(Suggestions: a) a seat in the pedestrian area facing on to the Nature Reserve, and b) a weather/vandal resistant panel, somewhere in the pedestrian area, showing how the new bridge has improved the area with an illustration showing what had been there).

COMMENDATIONS

CHURCH CENTRE, CHRIST CHURCH
Sawyer Architects Plc
The Panel welcomes particularly the design of the ambulatory together with other aspects of the building as viewed from Christchurch Road. The ambulatory forms part of an inner court 'oasis' and is a link building between the Church and halls and offices.

UNITED CHURCH
Jewry Street
Plincke Leaman & Browning Limited Architects
The new hall at the rear of the building was thought to be a visually exciting and ingenious design solution to the problems of providing access for the disabled - marred by the fact that acoustic problems have reduced the benefits of its proposed use.

WALES STREET AND COLSON ROAD
Plincke Leaman & Browning Limited Architects
General layout of whole scheme is pleasant, particularly Colson Road. An unpretentious development of houses designed with good simple proportions. It was noted that there was not enough storage space provided, which results in the dustbins being placed permanently outside. The Panel criticised the Wales Street elevations for the appearance of steep steps and their railings, and the rather mean balconies.

16, 18, 20, 22 TOWER STREET
City Architect A L Harding
The Panel congratulates the City's action in saving this terrace which was in need of considerable underpinning. The restrained treatment of the restoration is appreciated, although the extent to which repointing was warranted was questioned.

1 ST CROSS ROAD
Williams Lester Architects
The refurbishment and adaptation of this building has been particularly successful with regard to the front elevation.

4 EASTGATE STREET
Radley House Partnership
A good piece of restoration of the parapet of No 4, thereby completing the balustrades in this terrace of houses.

"THE CONSERVATORY"
Off Station Approach, Chesil Street
GMA Landscape
The inner courtyard of this housing scheme run by the Winchester and District Housing Association, has been carefully landscaped and planted, and provides a good example of what can be achieved in a fairly constrained space.

Flint Wall Repairs - TrustNews Winter 1992

Bob Bennett of The Lime Centre, Morestead, writes:

Winchester is built mainly of flint with brick and stone dressings and the use of these naturally occurring materials contributes greatly to the unique character of the city. Apart from modern development, all of the city was built using lime as the principal binder in mortar, plaster, render and colour wash for at least four thousand years - certainly before Stonehenge and the Pyramids were built! Portland cement on the other hand was patented about one hundred and fifty years ago and only came into regular use within the last hundred years. Old materials are incompatible with modern cement, which should not be used to repair a structure built using lime.

Three years ago, prompted by the increasing damage being done by incorrect repair, I obtained permission from the local authorities to convert the redundant buildings at Long Barn, Morestead, into a Lime Centre. Since then we have held increasingly popular day courses for professionals from all over the country, and this year the Lime Centre has won a Heritage Award from the Ford Foundation.

Providing courses for local people has also been one of my aims, and last year interested members of the Trust attended a Saturday morning 'teach-in' so that they could learn either to repair their own walls, or to properly instruct their builders. So I am delighted not only to have seen some competent DIY repairs, but to learn of the two Trust Design Awards to local builders: Everest Construction for repairs in the Cathedral Close, and Scammell & Higgins for a garden wall in St Cross Road. The latter award gives me particular pleasure because it recognises the importance of simple boundary walls.

As we travel around Winchester we look upon, often unseeing, miles of modest flint garden walls and humble outbuildings. Just imagine the change if these integral parts of the city were missing. One would see a collection of individual buildings no longer linked with a network of flint walling, but probably replaced by a hotchpotch of boarding, cheap brick or concrete block, and plastic.

Even in a conservation area I recently saw a section of flint wall demolished to make way for a caravan! This sort of ignorant vandalism must be stopped, and examples of skilled repair by owners and builders, together with the awards made by the Trust, will help to engender the respect and care needed to preserve this very important aspect of our City.

Anyone interested in attending a course or seeking advice on the use of Lime should contact Bob Bennett at the Lime Centre Tel: 713636.

Bob Bennett

Southern Comfort - TrustNews Winter 1992

Michael Carden RIBA, Deputy Chairman of the Trust, reports on a meeting held at Farnham in November.

Southern Comfort is the name of an annual gathering of societies and trusts like our own, all concerned with the conservation of our towns and cities. In 1984 Chichester hosted an experimental gathering of five societies from the south of England. All who attended found the occasion a source of great comfort as we shared our problems and ambitions. When I was asked to describe the event for the press, "Southern Comfort" seemed a suitable title for my article and the name has stuck.

Our hosts

In November last year, the Farnham Society hosted a gathering of 22 societies at the Farnham Maltings. Despite the growth in numbers I am pleased to say that the event retains its original informality. I missed not having a session on the societies' respective membership and administrative arrangements as it is very useful to compare notes, but the programme could not have included more.

"Feet first - making towns and cities pedestrian friendly",br /> The day started with an encouraging talk by Francis Tibbalds, Hon Secretary of the Royal Town Planning Institute and partner in a planning and architectural practice. He reminded us that 30 years ago Colin Buchanan regarded the freedom and comfort of the pedestrian as a good guide to the civilised quality of a town. While much has yet to be done, these objectives are being more strenuously worked for, and the problems are better understood. Single minded traffic segregation for example, is no longer seen as the only answer, and the successful Dutch technique of shared streets with pedestrian priority, is gaining acceptance. Francis Tibbalds covered many other aspects of the subject, but one which seemed to have particular relevance for Winchester at present was the importance he attached to the absence of clutter. Planners, he said, may panic of the sight of open space and fill it with all manner of street furniture, which can look chaotic. In particular he stressed the need to avoid barriers across streets! He ended with a number of principles, some of which were especially memorable and worth recording:-

1. think twice before using your own car.
2. always hold that people come before cars.
3. improve public transport.
4. keep traditional thoroughfares.
5. create multiple routes for pedestrians.
6. keep groundscape simple.
7. encourage art in public spaces.

8. don't be too proud to learn.
9. never, never, never, never give in!

The Maltings

After lunch in the canteen, we were shown around the Maltings. The complex was saved and is owned and run for the community by the Maltings Council, which raises money, manages the premises, continues the conversion work, arranges the bookings and lettings, all independently of though encouraged and helped by the local Authority. It is a very enviable facility including meeting rooms, theatre, dance studio, art gallery, craft workshops and many other things. Winchester should seriously consider the potential of St Thomas's Church for something similar, and ask for advice from the Farnham Maltings Council.

Unguided tour

Before the afternoon session there was just time for a gallop round the town in ad hoc groups using a thoughtfully provided mini-trail leaflet. This is a splendid idea to encourage a midday break in the fresh air with a sense of adventure - almost a treasure hunt - as one discovers a selection of the town's successes and failures and triumphantly finds ones way back just in time for the first item on the afternoon agenda.

Afternoon discussion

Our hosts chaired discussion on four well chosen subjects, each of which was enthusiastically debated. Unfortunately it is impossible to record all that was said, so it must suffice to comment briefly on how each related to Winchester.

Disposal of publicly owned land



A pen and ink drawing of St Thomas' Church, Winchester
now the Hampshire Record Office, by J.Smith, 1891

This was perhaps the most relevant with our recent experiences of the Brooks and Peninsula Barracks. All societies were indignant about the way in which such disposals are arranged without public participation. This prompted us to put forward a resolution on behalf of the Trust, which was adopted for conveyance to the Civic Trust, urging that maximum financial return should be balanced by maximum benefit to the community and the environment, and that the local community should first be consulted over the brief.

Protection for non-listed buildings

We were very greatly encouraged to learn of the success achieved by other societies through the use of "Article 4 Directions", (special planning powers for areas under threat), particularly in Reading, and we should seek their advice in our current campaign to prevent the degradation of Winchester's humbler architectural heritage by the use of plastic windows and the like.

Local Plans and Appeal Enquires

We were also very interested in the potential for combining with other societies in order to monitor and make representations concerning Local Plans. This debate led to the adoption of a second resolution put forward by the President of the Yately Society, Edward Dawson, asking the Civic Trust to explore the formation of County based groupings of amenity societies to act in consort in response to structure plans and so forth.

Local Museums

There was little time for this topic but we were pleased to note how well we are served compared with some other towns. We should not take our good fortune for granted.

The Civic Trust

A third resolution was put forward following a report from Celia Clark of the Portsmouth Society that shortage of funds had forced the Civic Trust to abandon two of its most important activities: the excellent "Heritage Outlook" magazine, and the Education Department with its invaluable work among schools and young people. We were disturbed that the decisions had been taken without reference to the many societies which are affiliated and pay subscriptions to the Civic Trust. The resolution asked for alternative measures to be explored.

Continuing comfort

The day ended with unanimous thanks to the Farnham Society for such a well organised, enjoyable and thought-provoking day, and to the Salisbury Society for announcing that it would host next year's meeting. This is the way with Southern Comfort, no rules, no standing committees, no officers, just an invitation from another society inspired to continue the tradition.

Michael Carden

Talks Programme - TrustNews Winter 1992

Saturdays 1 & 8 February 10.30-4.00pm
Design Awards 1991 Exhibition at the Heritage Centre, 52/54 Upper Brook Street

Sundays 2 & 9 February 2.00-4.00 pm,br /> Design Awards 1991 Exhibition at the Heritage Centre, 52/54 Upper Brook Street

Saturday 15 February 6.00 pm
Farewell party for Alan Cooke at the Heritage Centre. Members welcome

Thursday 20 February 7.30pm
Walton Room, The Guildhall, Winchester
Visions of Winchester Lecture Series David Brock MA.

Thursday 12 March 11.30-3.00 pm
Chippindale Venture III assessment day

Saturday 14 March
Fine Arts Auction Sale at the Heritage Centre. Viewing 10.30 am. Sale 2.30 pm
In aid of the Heritage Centre. Small articles of china, silver, coins, jewellery, pictures, old books, furniture, etc are required. They can be donated or sold on a 50/50 basis. Please telephone 842155 or 851664 if collection is needed, or deliver to 6 St Thomas Street (Andrew Smith & Son) who can advise on value. The Heritage Centre will be open on Saturday morning, 7 March for late entries)

Monday 16-29 March
Euro Tunnel exhibition at the Heritage Centre

Thursday 26 March 7.30pm
Walton Room, The Guildhall, Winchester.
Visions of Winchester Lecture Series. Tony Scott RIBA FRTPI FRSA

Tuesday 28 April 7.30pm
Walton Room, The Guildhall, Winchester.
Visions of Winchester Lecture Series David Rock FRSA RIBA

Thursday 28 May 7.30pm
Walton Room, The Guildhall, Winchester.
Visions of Winchester Lecture Series Jack Thompson Dip TP RIBA

Saturday 27th June
Visit to Guildford at the invitation of the Guildford Society.
This will be an all day trip arriving Guildford by 27 June coach 11.00 am departing 4.30 pm approximately. The Guildford Society will provide hospitality at Piccards Manor and arrange guided tours of Cathedral, University and town. If interested please advise Mrs Devas (Tel: 861274).

Antony Skinner

Fine Arts Auction Sale - TrustNews Winter 1992

Fine Arts Sale 3rd October 1992
Members are invited for the Auction Sale to be held on Saturday 3rd October, 1992, in aid of the Heritage Centre. Articles can either be donated, or sold on a 50/50 basis.

Anything saleable will be welcomed, some suggested items include: coins, stamps, jewellery, silver, ornaments, books, prints, watercolours, oil paintings (even in poor condition) small items of furniture, china, glass, collectable toys, lace, Victoriana, oriental rugs, clocks, old documents, etc. We wish to thank those who have already given articles for the postponed sale, and these will be included on October 3rd. The Auctioneer is Mr Andrew Smith, 6 St Thomas Street, Winchester (tel 842155). He can also advise on value.

If you have any items for inclusion in this sale, will you please complete this form and return it to the Heritage Centre (marked 'Auction Sale'), Upper Brook Street, Winchester, by Saturday 19th September, to give us time to complete the catalogue. Otherwise articles for sale can be left at the Heritage Centre during normal opening hours.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

TEL No.....

ARTICLE(S).....
.....
.....

Do you wish us to arrange collection?
Yes No

My article is / is not donated

My article is to be sold on a 50/50 basis
(please tick or delete as appropriate).